

Summer Ranger Programs

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



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Stars Over Yellowstone

Weather permitting; enjoy programs about astronomy offered in cooperation with the Museum of the Rockies with assistance from the Southwest Montana Astronomical Society. Find constellations, hear star stories, and view celestial objects through telescopes.

Night Sky Observing Madison Information Station Parking Lot

10:30 PM Fridays and Saturdays: June 19 & 20 and July 17 & 18.

Find the Milky Way, Saturn, craters on the Moon, the center of the Galaxy, star clusters, and nebula. Telescopes available. Bring a flashlight.

Safe Solar Observing Old Faithful Visitor Education Center area

2–5 PM Saturdays: June 20 and July 18.

Safely view the sun through telescopes. Great for the whole family.



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Teachers can bring a group to Yellowstone (with at least three weeks prior notice), have a ranger visit a school in the area, or schedule a video conference with students anywhere. Details at www.nps.gov/yell/forteachers

Strive for gold at Wildlife Olympics

Test your skills and compare your abilities to animals in Yellowstone. How far can you jump? How well can you see and smell? Take part in Yellowstone Wildlife Olympics on scheduled Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays between noon and 3 PM. Stay for as little or as long as your plans allow.

Old Faithful (Tuesdays from 12–3 PM)

Near Old Faithful Visitor Education Center
June 9, 16, 23, 30 • July 7, 14, 21, 28 • August 4, 11, 18, 25

Canyon Village (Thursdays from 12–3 PM)

Near Canyon Visitor Education Center
June 11, 18, 25 • July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 • August 6, 13, 20, 27

Mammoth Hot Springs (Saturdays from 12–3 PM)

Near Albright Visitor Center
June 13, 20, 27 • July 4, 11, 18, 25 • August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29



Evening programs about astronomy • Madison Amphitheater

Fri. June 19, 9:30 PM • Cosmic update 2015

What's up, what's new, and what's hot in the big wide universe and exploration of it. Presented by Dan Rogers of the Montana State University Space Outreach Team.



Sat. June 20, 9:30 PM • Other Worlds, Other Yellowstones

A current look at the search for other worlds, and how environments like Yellowstone's could provide havens for life. Presented by Dan Rogers.

Fri. July 17, 9:30 PM • Life in the Universe

Explore the Solar System through the eyes of an astronaut. Learn about the search for new life and how Montana scientists are contributing to this search. Presented by Dr. Jim Manning, Executive Director, The Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

Sat. July 18, 9:30 PM • Mission to Mars

Why is it important to visit Mars? Does Mars have water? Did life once exist on Mars and does it now? To answer these questions, NASA has sent satellites and rovers to Mars, and one day maybe people will visit! Learn what it takes for these difficult missions to succeed. Presented by Dr. Jim Manning.



Stay on designated trails and boardwalks. Ground in hydrothermal areas is fragile and thin, and there is scalding water just below. Visitors have fallen through and died here. Keep your children close at hand.



Keep your distance. You must stay at least 100 yards (91 m) from bears and wolves. A distance of 25 yards (23 m) is required from bison, elk, and other animals. Regardless of distance, if any wild animal changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.



As you enjoy trails, be bear aware. You are safer hiking in groups of three or more. Make yourself heard in areas where you can't see far around you. Do not run from a bear under any circumstance. Carry bear spray and know how to use it safely.